

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 HONG K 10092 311101Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 EB-08 /021 W
-----022675 311104Z /10

O 311025Z JUL 78
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2074
INFO USDOC WASHDC IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TIAPE IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS HONG KONG 10092

FROM SHOESMITH FOR SUSAN KING, CHAIRMAN, CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY
COMMISSION

EA/PRCM FOR THAYER

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP, HK
SUBJ: SEMINAR ON U.S. REGULATIONS ON CONSUMER PRODUCTS

REF: A. TELEX FROM SUSAN KING, CPSC, DTD. 7/29/78
B. HONG KONG 3044 AND PREVIOUS
1. OUR RESPONSE TO REFTTEL (A) AFTER CONSULTATION WITH
THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES, FOLLOWS,
BECAUSE CPSC PORTION OF SEMINARS TO BE HELD IN HK, KOREA
AND TAIWAN, ESPECIALLY REGARDING YOUR TOY REGULATIONS AND
RELATED PROGRAMS, IS CRUCIAL TO ENTIRE SEMINAR, FEDERATION
OF HK INDUSTRIES FEELS IT CAN NOT REPEAT NOT FIND
SUITABLE SUBSTITUTES AND WILL HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO CANCEL.
CONSIDERING THE VOLUME OF TOYS IMPORTED BY THE U.S. FROM HONG KONG
ALONE (US\$337 MILLION IN 1977) IN TERMS OF THE HEALTH AND SAFETY NEED
OF
THE AMERICAN PEOPLE IT WOULD BE UNFORTUNATE TO MISS THIS
OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT YOUR AGENCY'S
MESSAGE EXPERTLY TO THE MANUFACTURERS IN THIS REGION.
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 HONG K 10092 311101Z

2. THE FEDERATION WROTE AARON LOCKER, LEGAL COUNSEL,
TOY MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION (TMA) ON 9/2/77 AND
WALTER ARMATYS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TMA ON 10/18/78 TO
REQUEST THEIR ASSISTANCE IN SETTING UP THESE SEMINARS.
SAMUEL SHERWIN, PRESIDENT TMA, RESPONDED ENTHUSIASTICALLY
AND ARRANGED FOR ROBERT KING, MANAGER OF PRODUCT

SAFETY, FISHER-PRICE TOYS, TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SEMINAR.
I GATHER FROM THIS THAT THE U.S. TOY INDUSTRY, THROUGH
ITS ASSOCIATION, FEELS THESE SEMINARS TO BE WORTHWHILE.

3. WHILE I CAN NOT SPEAK WITH AUTHORITY ON DIRECT U.S.
TOY MANUFACTURING OPERATIONS IN KOREA AND TAIWAN, I CAN
POINT OUT THAT THE FOLLOWING U.S. FIRMS HAVE MAJOR
MANUFACTURING OPERATIONS IN HONG KONG:

COX INTERNATIONAL
MEGO INTERNATIONAL INC.
MATTEL INC.
IDEAL TOY CORP.
MARX TOYS
TYCO INDUSTRIES

IN ADDITIONS, MANY OTHER U.S. FIRMS HAVE SUB-CONTRACTING
WORK DONE HERE. FOR THIS REASON, I FEEL IT IMPERATIVE THAT
LOCAL MANUFACTURERS HAVE AS CLEAR AN UNDERSTANDING OF
YOUR AGENCY'S RULES AND REGULATIONS AS POSSIBLE. SUCH AN
EXPERT PRESENTATION CAN OBVIOUSLY COME ONLY FROM YOUR OWN
STAFF.

4. THE FEDERATION OF HONG KONG INDUSTRIES HAS EXPENDED
MUCH ENERGY AND FUNDS SINCE MAY OF 1977 SETTING UP THIS
PROGRAM. ALL MATERIALS TO BE USED IN THE SEMINARS HAVE
ALREADY BEEN TRANSLATED AND PRINTED. EVEN MORE IMPORTANTLY,
THE FEDERATION WOULD BE TERRIBLY EMBARRASSED BY HAVING TO
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 HONG K 10092 311101Z

TELL ITS COUNTERPARTS IN KOREA AND TAIWAN TO CANCEL THE
SEMINARS AT THIS LATE DATE.

5. THIS POST HAS HAD A LONG, CLOSE, AND FRUITFUL
RELATIONSHIP WITH THE FEDERATION IN COSPONSORING EVENTS
PROMOTING U.S. EXPORTS, IF THE FEDERATION IS PLACED IN
AN EMBARRASSING POSITION BY THE USG, THE LOSS OF CREDIBILITY
BY THIS POST AND USG IN THIS COMMUNITY, AS WELL AS IN KOREA
AND TAIWAN, COULD BE CONSIDERABLE. FOR THIS REASON I URGE
THAT YOU LET THE MEMBERS OF YOUR STAFF ATTEND THESE SEMINARS
AS ORIGINALLY AGREED BY FORMER CHAIRMAN S. JOHN BYINGTON
IN HIS LETTER TO US DTD 5/19/78. PUBLICITY FOR THE SEMINARS,
WHICH WAS TO HAVE BEEN RELEASED TUESDAY, AUGUST 1ST
WILL BE HELD PENDING YOUR AFFIRMATION. PLEASE LET US
HAVE YOUR RESPONSE BY RETURN IMMEDIATE CABLE.
SHOESMITH

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED CPSC.

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978HONGK10092
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780312-1203
Format: TEL
From: HONG KONG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978074/aaaaadgz.tel
Line Count: 112
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 81633570-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 HONG KONG 3044
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1945996
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SEMINAR ON U.S. REGULATIONS ON CONSUMER PRODUCTS
TAGS: BEXP, HK
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/81633570-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014